Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

collecting from a second user, a request that a first user ship a particular parcel ~~from the first user~~ to a destination to be designated by the second user;

according to the request by the second user, collecting, from the first user via a first set of interactive accesses to the shipping management computer system by a first computer device, a set of information corresponding to the request comprising: (A) parcel specifications for shipping the particular parcel to the destination to be designated by the second user, (B) an origin address associated with the first user from which the particular parcel would be shipped, and (C) shipping preferences for shipping the particular parcel to the second user;

collecting, from the second user via a second set of interactive accesses to the shipping management computer system by a second computer device, a set of recipient information corresponding to the request comprising: (A) a destination address ~~for the second user~~ to which the particular parcel is to be shipped by[[from]] the first user, (B) an identification of a carrier to be used in shipping the package to the ~~second user~~destination address, and (C) a delivery service by which the carrier is to ship the package to the ~~second user~~destination address;

calculating a shipping rate corresponding to the request, according to the

set of recipient information collected from the second user and according to the set of information collected from the first user, to be charged for having the carrier ship the particular parcel from the origin address to the destination address via the delivery service; and

displaying the shipping rate to a display device selected from a group consisting of: (A) a first display device that is in communication with the first computer device, and (B) a second display device that is in communication with the second computer device, wherein[[:]] said shipping rate is calculated according to:

([[A]]1) the parcel specifications and the origin address input by the first user, and

([[B]]2) the destination address, the selection of the carrier, and the selection of the delivery service input by the second user.

Claims 13-26. (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to, for each particular respective parcel of a plurality of parcels:

(A) receive from a particular user:

1) an ~~indication of a selection~~ identification of a default shipping location associated with the particular user~~, wherein said default shipping location comprises an identification of a location~~ to which the particular user will drop off parcels to be shipped~~, and wherein the default shipping location is selected from a plurality of default shipping location alternatives~~; and

2) a set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(B) for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, apply a respective set of carrier-specific shipping location rules to the default shipping location to determine which of said plurality of carriers would support shipping the particular

parcel from the default shipping location; and

(C) generate a display that includes a listing of each of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular parcel from the default shipping location, wherein:

said shipping management computer system is configured for access by a plurality of users, and

each of said plurality of users accesses said shipping management computer system via a global communications network using a respective user client computer device.

Claims 28-29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed for:

(A) receiving from a first user client computer device through a first access path, an input by a first user of a set of parcel specifications corresponding to a transaction between the first user and the second user for a particular parcel to be shipped by [[a]]the first user to a destination to be designated by a second user, said set of parcel specifications comprising:

(1) an origin address associated with the first user, and

(2) at least one of:

a parcel type,

a set of parcel dimensions,

a package weight, or

a value of the particular parcel,

(B) receiving from a second user client computer device through a second access path, an input by the second user corresponding to the transaction between the first user and the second user of a set of recipient information for a delivery of the particular parcel to a destination indicated by the second user, said set of recipient information comprising:

(1) a delivery address to which the particular parcel is to be delivered,

(2) a delivery service by which the particular parcel is to be delivered to the delivery address, and

(3) a carrier that is to deliver the particular parcel to the delivery address;

(C) calculating a shipping rate corresponding to the transaction between the first user and the second user, according to the input by the first user and the input by the second user, for shipping the particular parcel from the origin address to the delivery address via said delivery service and said carrier, wherein said computer system is configured to calculate the shipping rate according to at least: (1) said parcel specifications; (2) said delivery address; (3) said delivery service; and (4) said carrier; and

(D) displaying the shipping rate to ~~at least one display device selected from a group consisting of: (1) a first display device in communication with a first user client computer device, and (2)~~ a second display device in communication with [[a]]the second user client computer device, wherein:

~~said set of parcel specifications is input by the first user via the first user client computer device,~~

said first user accesses the shipping management computer system via [[a]]the first access path through a global communications network using the first user client computer device,

~~said set of recipient information is input by the second user via the second user client computer device,~~ and

said second user accesses the shipping management computer system via the second access path through the global communications network using the second user client computer device.

Claims 31-32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system, said

shipping management computer system programmed for:

communicating remotely with a plurality of user client computer devices via a network communications protocol; and

for each of said client computer devices:

(A) receiving a request, from a user associated with the client computer device, to ship a particular parcel, wherein said request comprises:

(1) an origin identifier corresponding to a location from which the particular parcel is to be shipped,

(2) a delivery destination identifier corresponding to a location to which the particular parcel is to be shipped, and

(3) a set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(B) identifying a plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective parcel according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications;

(C) for each particular one of said plurality of carriers:

(1) calculating a shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a first delivery service according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications, and

(2) calculating a shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a second delivery service according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications; and

(D) displaying, to a display device configured with the client computer device, a simultaneous preview of each shipping rate calculated in Step (C) above.

34. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

communicating remotely with a plurality of user client computer devices

via a network communications protocol;

for each of said plurality of client computer devices:

(A) receiving, from a user associated with the client computer device, a request to ship a particular parcel, wherein said request comprises:

(1) an origin identifier corresponding to a location from which the particular parcel is to be shipped,

(2) a delivery destination identifier corresponding to a location to which the particular parcel is to be shipped, and

(3) a set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(B) identifying a plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective parcel according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications;

(C) for each particular one of said plurality of carriers:

(1) calculating a first service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a first delivery service according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, the set of parcel specifications, and a set of rules for the first delivery service, and

(2) calculating a second service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a second delivery service according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, the set of parcel specifications, and a set of rules for the second delivery service; and

(D) displaying, to a display device configured with the client computer device, a simultaneous online comparison comprising each service-specific, carrier specific shipping rate calculated in Step (C) above.

35. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

communicating remotely with a plurality of user client computer devices

via a network communications protocol;

for each of said client computer devices:

(A) receiving a request, from a user associated with said client computer device, to ship a particular parcel, wherein said request comprises:

(1) an origin identifier corresponding to a location from which the particular parcel is to be shipped,

(2) a delivery destination identifier corresponding to a location to which the particular parcel is to be shipped, and

(3) a set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(B) identifying a plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective parcel according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications;

(C) for each particular one of said plurality of carriers:

(1) determining a first service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule according to which said particular carrier would deliver said particular parcel via a first delivery service, said shipping management computer system being configured to determine said first service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, the set of parcel specifications, and at least one service-specific, carrier specific delivery schedule rule associated with said first delivery service, and

(2) determining a second service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule according to which said particular carrier would deliver said particular parcel via a second delivery service, said shipping management computer system being configured to determine said second service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, the set of parcel specifications, and at least one service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule rule associated with said second delivery service; and

(D) displaying, to a display device configured with the client computer

device, a simultaneous online comparison comprising each service-specific, carrier specific delivery schedule determined in Step (C) above.

36. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

(A) communicating remotely with a plurality of user client computer devices via a network communications protocol; and

(B) for each of said user client computer devices:

(1) receiving, from the user client computer device, a request to ship a particular parcel, said request including a request that a delivery notification service be implemented in association with the shipment of the particular parcel; and

(2) in response to said request:

(a) for each carrier-specific delivery service offered by each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, determine whether the respective carrier-specific delivery service would provide delivery notification for delivering the particular parcel, and

(b) displaying to a display device configured with the client computer device, [[an]]a simultaneous identification of each carrier-specific delivery service of each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would provide the delivery notification service.

Claims 37-41. (Canceled).

42. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

(A) communicating remotely with a plurality of user client computer devices via a network communications protocol;

(B) for each of said client computer devices:

(1) receiving a request, from a user associated with said client computer device, to ship a particular parcel, wherein said request

comprises:

(a) an origin identifier corresponding to a location from which the particular parcel is to be shipped;

(b) a delivery destination identifier corresponding to a location to which the particular parcel is to be shipped; and

(c) a set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(2) identifying a plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective parcel according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications;

(3) for each particular one of said plurality of carriers:

(a) calculating a shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a first delivery service according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications, and

(b) calculating a shipping rate that said particular carrier would charge to deliver said particular parcel via a second delivery service according to according to the origin identifier, the delivery destination identifier, and the set of parcel specifications; and

(C) displaying to a display device configured with the client computer device, a simultaneous online comparison comprising each respective shipping rate determined in Step (3) above, wherein:

each of said respective shipping rates corresponds to a particular respective service offered by a particular respective carrier for delivering the respective parcel by a particular time on a particular day.

Claim 43 (Cancelled).

44. (Currently Amended) An online interactive shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

receiving a set of data input by a particular user via a particular remote user client computer device that is disposed to access the online interactive

shipping management computer system using software for retrieving or rendering hyper-media content, wherein the set of data input comprises at least one data item selected from the group consisting of: a set of parcel specifications for a particular parcel, and a set of shipping specifications for shipping the particular parcel, wherein the set of shipping specifications comprises an origin identifier and a destination identifier;

determining a set of rating and scheduling information in response to the set of data;

generating a displayable interactive user interface adapted for displaying the rating and scheduling information, wherein the displayable interactive user interface comprises:

(A) at least one data collection field initialized with a data item from the set of data input by the particular user;

(B) the set of rating and scheduling information; and

(C) an executable set of instructions for automatically regenerating the interactive user interface display in response to a user modification of data in the at least one data collection field, the executable set of instructions disposed for automatic installation on the client computer device, said executable program instructions disposed to automatically execute on the client computer device to automatically regenerate the interactive user interface display in response to a user modification of data in the at least one data collection field.

45. (Currently Amended) The online interactive shipping management computer system of Claim 44, wherein:

said online interactive shipping management computer system is further programmed to distribute the displayable interactive user interface to the particular remote user client computer device using said software for retrieving or rendering hyper-media content.

Claims 46-48. (Cancelled).

49. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system that is programmed for:

(A) communicating with a plurality of remote client computer devices;

(B) for each particular one of said plurality of remote client computer devices:

(1) receiving a request, via said particular remote client computer device, to ship a particular parcel, said request comprising a set of parcel characteristics;

(2) using said set of parcel characteristics and a first set of carrier-specific weight calculation rules to derive a first carrier-specific ratable weight for said particular parcel;

(3) using said set of parcel characteristics and a second set of carrier-specific weight calculation rules to derive a second carrier-specific ratable weight for said particular parcel;

(4) using said first carrier-specific ratable weight to determine whether a first carrier would support shipping the particular parcel, and, if the first carrier would support shipping the particular parcel, calculating a first service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a first delivery service offered by the first carrier and calculating a second service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a second delivery service offered by the first carrier;

(5) using said second carrier-specific ratable weight to determine whether a second carrier would support shipping the particular parcel, and, if the second carrier would support shipping the particular parcel, calculating a third service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a first delivery service offered by the second carrier and calculating a fourth service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a second delivery service offered by the second carrier;

(6) displaying to a display device in communication with the remote client computer device, a simultaneous cross-comparison of the first,

second, third and fourth service-specific, carrier specific shipping rates.

50. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system[[,]] that is programmed for:

(A) communicating with a plurality of user client computer devices via a network communications protocol;

(B) for each respective user client computer device of said plurality of user client computer devices:

(1) receiving a request, via said respective client computer device, to ship a particular parcel, said request comprising:

(a) an origin postal code for said particular parcel,

(b) a destination postal code for said particular parcel, and

(c) a respective set of parcel specifications for the particular parcel;

(2) in response to receiving the request:

(a) determining a first carrier-specific origin rating zone identifier that a first carrier would associate with the origin postal code according to an indication in a memory storage accessible by the shipping computer system comprising an identification of first carrier-specific origin rating zone identifiers associated with origin postal codes;

(b) determining a second carrier-specific origin rating zone identifier that a second carrier would associate with the origin postal code according to an indication in a memory storage accessible by the shipping computer system comprising an identification of second carrier-specific origin rating zone identifiers associated with origin postal codes;

(c) determining a first carrier-specific destination rating zone identifier that said first carrier would associate with the destination postal code according to an indication in a memory storage

accessible by the shipping computer system comprising an identification of first carrier-specific destination rating zone identifiers associated with destination postal codes;

(d) determining a second carrier-specific destination rating zone identifier that said second carrier would associate with the destination postal code according to an indication in a memory storage accessible by the shipping computer system comprising an identification of second carrier-specific destination rating zone identifiers associated with destination postal codes;

(e) calculating a first service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a first delivery service offered by said first carrier according to at least the first carrier-specific origin rating zone, the first carrier-specific destination rating zone, and the set of parcel specifications;

(f) calculating a second service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a second delivery service offered by said first carrier according to at least the first carrier-specific origin rating zone, the first carrier-specific destination rating zone, and the set of parcel specifications;

(g) calculating a third service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a first delivery service offered by said second carrier according to at least the second carrier-specific origin rating zone, the second carrier-specific destination rating zone, and the set of parcel specifications; [[and]]

(h) calculating a fourth service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for a second delivery service offered by said second carrier according to at least the second carrier-specific origin rating zone, the second carrier-specific destination rating zone, and the set of parcel specifications; and

(i) generating a display to a display device disposed for communication with the respective user client computer device, of a

simultaneous cross-comparison of the first, second, third and fourth service-specific, carrier specific shipping rates.

Claims 51-53. (Cancelled).

54. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 30, wherein said shipping management computer system is further programmed for:

displaying to the second display device in communication with the second user client computer device used by a second user, a list of permissible payment methods; and

receiving a selection of a particular payment method from the list of permissible payment methods, said particular payment method selected by the second user to pay for: (A) a purchase of an item by the second user from the first user, and (B) a shipment of the item in the particular parcel from the first user to the second user.

55. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 54, wherein said shipping management computer system is further programmed for:

reporting to the first user client computer device a receipt of a payment for the purchase of the item and for shipment of the item.

56. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 54, wherein said shipping management computer system is further programmed for:

generating a shipping label for shipping the particular parcel from the origin address associated with the first user, to the delivery address to which the particular parcel is to be delivered; and

printing the shipping label on a first print rendering device in communication with the first user client computer device.

57. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 12, said shipping management computer system being further programmed for:

generating a shipping label for the delivery service and the carrier to ship the particular parcel from the origin address to the destination address; and

printing the shipping label on a first print rendering device that is disposed for communication with the first computer device.